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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. In September 1953, en route to Arkhangelsk, [] two torpedo boats and two destroyers near the Murmansk coast. Informant was sure that the destroyers were the latest German type built before the end of World War II. They travelled at full speed (sic) and were very maneuverable; their forward masts carried the German "mattress"-type of antenna. When informant's ship entered the White Sea, it was followed by a small vessel similar to a German TF boat.

2. [] ship tied up at a small harbor about eight nautical miles north of Arkhangelsk. It had come under ballast and loaded lignite tar (Braunteer) at Arkhangelsk [] There was no loading equipment, such as cranes, in this small harbor and the cargo had to be loaded with the ship's own loading gear. The place could not properly be described as a harbor. Instead of piers there were only a few piles with planks on top. The loading area made a poor impression as did the people observed there.

3. [] Navigation was not difficult. The channel was marked with buoys and other signals. A pilot was taken on board informant's ship from a signal station on the shore and not, as usual, from the lightship. The ship had to cast anchor off the signal tower. A female physician came aboard as quarantine officer as well as 12 uniformed persons, including unarmed soldiers and customs officials. The entire crew had to appear on the upper deck and the crew list and seamen's books were then presented to the customs inspectors.

4. The inspection at entry and exit was handled expeditiously and with courtesy. Only six of the inspectors searched the ship, while the rest of the party sat in the mess room. The inspection of the ship was superficial; only new articles of clothing were placed under seal, while coffee and cigarettes were not. []

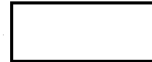
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5. The captain  received a pass to go into Arkhangelsk as soon as the ship anchored; however, he did not go ashore. Landing cards for the crew arrived on the morning the ship was to leave, which was more than a week after its arrival, but because of the shortness of time, the captain sent the cards back unused. A guard, armed with a pistol, stood by the ship during its entire stay in port. All the guards were clean and conducted themselves correctly.
6. While leaving the port of Arkhangelsk, a submarine was observed practicing dives. It resembled a German 1600-ton submarine and was able to submerge quickly.

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